

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00519 091022Z

21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

AID-05 IGA-02 MC-02 ACDA-07 /074 W

----- 035998

R 091005Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1508

INFO COMIDEASTFOR

CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0519

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OCLR, MASS, QA, US

SUBJ: COMIDEASTFOR/USS SEMMES VISIT TO QATAR: GOQ COMPLAINT
THAT IT CANNOT BUY US ARMS

REF: COMIDEASTFOR (DTG 081330Z MAY 76) (NOTAL), DOHA 0511,
75 DOHA 0897 (NOTAL)

1. DURING CONVERSATIONS THAT TOOK PLACE IN COURSE OF CMEF/
SEMMES VISIT TO DOHA MAY 4-6, DEPUTY COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF QATAR
ARMED FORCES, BRIGADIER MUHAMMAD AL ATTIAH, ALLEGED THAT GOQ
UNABLE TO BUY ARMS FROM USG AND, THEREFORE, IT REQUIRED TO
PURCHASE FROM OTHER WESTERN SOURCES SUCH AS UK AND FRANCE.

2. ATTIAH MADE PASSING REFERENCE TO THIS DURING INITIAL CALL
BY ADMIRAL BIGLEY AND COMMANDER WILLIAMSON OF SEMMES AT WHICH
I WAS PRESENT. I REMINDED ATTIAH THAT AT HIS REQUEST WE HAD
PROVIDED PRICE AND AVAILABILITY ON A NUMBER OF ITEMS ALMOST
A YEAR AGO, (75 DOHA 0897) AND HAVE HEARD NOTHING FROM GOQ
SINCE. HE DID NOT PURSUE SUBJECT FURTHER, BUT APPARENTLY
RAISED IT AGAIN WHEN HE RETURNED CMEF'S CALL ABOARD SEMMES;
I WAS NOT PRESENT ON THAT OCCASION.

3. COMMENT: I HAVE NOT ON ANY OCCASION PRESSED QATARIS TO
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BUY US ARMS. I BELIEVE IT IS IN OUR BEST INTEREST TO RESPOND

AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE TO ANY QATARI REQUEST IN THIS AREA,
BUT THEN TO LEAVE BALL IN THEIR COURT WHERE IT IS NOW, ATTIYAH'S
REMARKS NOTWITHSTANDING.
PAGANELLI

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: OCLR, MASS, QA, US
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